

Senate File 2216 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2216

BY EDLER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of state intensive
2 psychiatric units at the state mental health institutes.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — STATE INTENSIVE
2 PSYCHIATRIC UNITS.

3 1. The department of human services shall establish, at the
4 state mental health institutes, intensive psychiatric units
5 for adults with certain mental health and behavioral health
6 disabilities and intensive psychiatric units for children
7 with certain mental health and behavioral health disabilities
8 who may benefit from more extensive and intensive mental and
9 behavioral health treatment services with the goal of providing
10 a higher acuity of care for such persons.

11 2. Each intensive psychiatric unit shall have a minimum
12 of twelve residential service beds to be used by adults and
13 children with the highest acuity level of needs at the mental
14 health institute where the intensive psychiatric unit is
15 established, but the mental health institute may use the beds
16 for persons with lower-level acuity needs if beds are otherwise
17 available within an intensive psychiatric unit.

18 3. The department of human services shall collect data
19 necessary to determine the effectiveness of each intensive
20 psychiatric unit. Four years after the department determines
21 an intensive psychiatric unit is operational, the department
22 shall submit a report to the chairpersons and ranking members
23 of the joint appropriations subcommittee on health and human
24 services with details on the effectiveness of the intensive
25 psychiatric units and recommendations for such units. Such
26 details shall include but not be limited to the impact the
27 intensive psychiatric units have on community mental health
28 facilities and emergency departments in this state. No later
29 than one year from the date the department submits its report,
30 the legislature shall determine whether to continue operations
31 of the intensive psychiatric units based on the efficacy and
32 feasibility for continued use of such units.

33

EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill relates to the establishment of state intensive
2 psychiatric units at the state mental health institutes.

3 The bill directs the department of human services (DHS) to
4 establish, at the state mental health institutes, intensive
5 psychiatric units for adults and intensive psychiatric units
6 for children with certain mental health and behavioral health
7 disabilities who may benefit from more extensive and intensive
8 mental and behavioral health treatment services with the goal
9 of providing a higher acuity of care for such persons.

10 The bill requires each intensive psychiatric unit to have a
11 minimum of 12 residential service beds to be used by adults and
12 children with the highest acuity level of needs at the state
13 mental health institute where intensive psychiatric units are
14 established, but the state mental health institute may use the
15 beds for persons with lower-level acuity needs if beds are
16 otherwise available within an intensive psychiatric unit.

17 The bill requires DHS to collect data necessary to determine
18 the effectiveness of each intensive psychiatric unit. Four
19 years after DHS determines an intensive psychiatric unit is
20 operational, DHS shall provide a report to the chairpersons and
21 ranking members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on
22 health and human services with details on the effectiveness of
23 the intensive psychiatric units and recommendations for such
24 units. Such details shall include but not be limited to the
25 impact the units have on community mental health facilities
26 and emergency departments in this state. No later than one
27 year from the date DHS submits its report, the legislature
28 shall determine whether to continue operations of the intensive
29 psychiatric units based on the efficacy and feasibility for
30 continued use of such units.